**Minutes of the Upper Beeding Parish Council meeting held at**

**Beeding and Bramber Village Hall**

**on Tuesday 28th November 2023 commencing at 7pm**

**Present:** Councillors: F. Bull,S. Birnstingl, P. Bull, J. Cannon, C Deadman, F. Heaver, B Harber (UBPC Chairman), I. T. Kardos, S. Teatum and C. Warren.

**Members of the Public**: No members of the Public were present.

**C: 1123:01 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from County Cllr. P. Linehan and District Cllr. R. Noel.

**C: 1123:02 Declaration of Councillors personal or prejudicial interest**

The Chair reminded councillors that previous declarations still stand (as defined under the Localism Act 2011).

No further declarations received on this occasion.

**C: 1123:03 Minutes of the last meeting**

It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 31st October 2023

Proposed: Cllr. C. Warren; seconded: Cllr. T Kardos and agreed.

**C: 1123:04 Public Adjournment**

No members of the public were present.

**C: 1023:05 Report from District Councillor Mike Croker**

Cllr Croker reported that:

* The majority of the issues to be raised had been in the Horsham Parish Bulletin which had been circulated by the Clerk,
* The other comment was regarding the cost to repair a car park roof in Horsham.
* The Local Plan should be available by 1st December.
* Cllr Harber asked of there were any areas of the plan which could affect the Parish.
* The areas around Biodiversity and Water Neutrality were particularly interesting.
* NPPF has stated that Horsham needs to build 18,000 new dwellings by 2040.

In the discussion that ensued, Cllrs raised:

* the concerns with Willow Cottage, Small Dole
* The possible development if a plot of land on the Henfield/Small Dole border.
* The need for Southern Water to manage the supply to allow development in the district.

The Chair thanked Cllr Croker for his report.

**C: 1123:06 Neighbourhood Wardens Report**

Councillors received and noted the monthly report for October 2023 provided by the Neighbourhood Wardens.

In the discussion that ensued the Clerk explained that he had asked the Neighbourhood Wardens to make a social call to Willow Cottage as a pro-active intervention. But they did not feel that this was appropriate and asked if there were any complaints about the location.

The next meeting of the Wardens Steering Group will be on 12th December, The Clerk would be in attendance and would ask if the reports could show more outcomes rather than just reporting.

Regarding Warden reporting via Operation Crackdown, it was queried whether these were included in the police reporting, and what were the outcomes.Additionally, there was some reference to the proposed use of £1,000,000 which could be the creation of Sheriffs.

**C: 1123:07 Report from County Councillor**

Due to the non-attendance of WSCC County Councillor, Paul Linehan, there was no report on this occasion.

Councillors expressed their continuing disappointment at the non-attendance of County Cllr. Linehan.

Cllr Harber commented that Cllr Linehan was due to attend the White Bridge Link meeting on 19th November.

**C: 1123:08** **Committee Membership**

Due to the departure of Ian Ivatt and the recent passing of Alan Chilver, there are some vacancies in the committees.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Frank Bull would join the Finance Committee

Proposed by Cllr B Harber, Seconded by Cllr. J Cannon.

There was a brief discussion and at the end there were no more volunteers for the vacancies on other committees.

The Clerk asked Members to ensure that they came forward if they wanted to join a committee.

**C: 1123: 09 Clerk’s Report**

The Clerk’s report was received and noted.

**Saltings Field**

The Clerk updated Members regarding the possibility of the Saltings Field being returned to HDC and the information that this was already part of the proposal for HDC to take on Bramber Brooks.

**Crossings**

Cllr Harber asked if there were any plans to improve the signage so that walkers and pedestrians knew where the pathway to the Rising Sun PH started.

The Clerk would contact WSCC regarding this and report back any information.

Cllr Teatum reminded Members that there was an edition of Your Steyning, Beeding & Bramber coming put soon and the Parish Council has a full page.

In the discussion that ensued:

* JYPC was discussed and the subject of the proposed youth service would be on the Community Committee agenda for 5th December.
* The Closing date for Co-Option of new councillors is 3rd December.

**C: 1123:10** **Finance Committee – 21st November 2023 Minutes**

Councillors received and accepted the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on [21st November 2023.](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/ETfpfojcQYlMhDcJNvuHEQgBs_uGTf1nonKxlG6XQqxJPw) Proposed: Cllr Kardos; seconded Cllr Teatum.

**C: 1023:11 Finance Committee Recommendations**

Councillors received and agreed the recommendations of Finance Committee meeting held on [21st November 2023](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EdSQMdmVMYNEl4A04Z9lNoYBQ1ZimyNTIDuc4mubGgWSLw).

Proposed: Cllr Birnstingl; seconded: Cllr J Cannon.

Councillors also discussed:

* The Asset Register and the need to keep it up to date.

Councillors received and agreed The Asset Register

Proposed: Cllr Kardos; seconded Cllr J Cannon.

* It was **RESOLVED** to ratify the donation to The Hub in memory of Cllr. Alan Chilvers chosen Charity.

Proposed: Cllr Teatum; seconded Cllr C Warren.

**C: 1023:12** [**2024/25 Budget**](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/EccTcKz-b2VDqy2uXCtM7O4Bvr4WWcsz1mEv-RpqYyoo4Q)–

The Budget as recommended by Finance Committee meeting held on 21st November 2023 was reviewed and discussed.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the proposed expenditure budget of £246,995 including a transfer of £10,000 to Earmarked Reserves for improved play equipment for the two play areas.

Proposed Cllr C Warren, seconded Cllr T Kardos and **AGREED**.

**C: 1023:13** [**2024/25 Precept**](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/ERqqwOtkhYtNjIgGf5NPdecBgiERbyPoHte-D_jCEEmK6Q)–

It was resolved to agree and submit the precept requirement of £233,625.00 (two hundred and thirty-three thousand, six hundred and twenty-five pounds) This will lead to an increase of £3.16 per year (7 pence per week) on a Band D property or approximately 5% (For comparison the current inflation rate (CPI) is over 6%)

Proposed Cllr Harber, seconded Cllr Kardos and **AGREED**

**C: 1023:14 Facilities Committee Minutes**

Councillors received and accepted the minutes of the Facilities Committee meeting held on [7th November 2023.](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EbeSLrVPzolJnQLQ3fMH0VgBw_Iem9ac_u85QseBcIgOMA)

Proposed: Cllr Cannon; seconded: Cllr F Bull.

**C: 1023:15 Facilities Committee Recommendations**

Councillors received and agreed the [recommendations](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EZT-KpZQWYhMhAqMOzgvA4wBh6QJObczjwImRV79k8rUOA) of the Facilities Committee meeting held on 7th November 2023

**C:1123: 16 Grant Request –** [Hogs Wallow](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EbBtelrG9o5NnlAh0d1ZUWUBd9yhkOqOmTN0K0D0Su12Nw)

The letter circulated with the agenda was discussed and Members **agreed**

that more information is required.

The Clerk was asked to contact the group and ask for a set of audited accounts and more details about what the funds would be used for.

Members also discussed.

* The need to review the grant application process and the Donations policy.

**C:1123: 17 Finance Reports**

Councillors received and noted the income and expenditure ([summary](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/ERUdRSUHNOxHsPxtjdnmLpEB8ibvXmxXeNoMxDitcRJLIA) and [detailed](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/ERTM9Jm5g0FEmMYaZrZrJM0BSzxc9cDuhoTwjgfnmd2FCQ)) for year to date.

**C: 1023:18 Bank Reconciliation**

Councillors received and noted the Bank reconciliations up to [October](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/EWtlm4k09ktItSupvv3og2cBkyzAKEwG8EsemVeVTffSvg) 2023.

**C: 1023:19 Payments List**

Councillors received and noted all payments made in [October](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/ERGzuvRiJJVEpMUP7k7E2cMB9VA9L5g6zx8sjrY7vLLFjw) 2023 totalling £63,847.49 in accordance with the Financial Regulations.

**C: 1023:18 Correspondence**

Councillors received and noted  [correspondence](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EXYA6fpl-3dKvLvUHcHliuQBs-CEHm3UPFvW6WcdrePsuw) which had been emailed in advance for September/October 2023.

**C: 1023:19 Chairman’s Announcements**

The Chair had nothing to report at the current time.

He did ask of the recent request for community Transport in the Parish could be investigated.

**C: 1023:20 Matters raised by Councillors**

**Cllr Cannon** – gavedetails regarding four points on the river north of the white bridge which need to be attended to as the embankments were low and high tide nearly breaches the bank.

**Cllr Teatum –** Dementia Christmas Lunch was in need of a push as there were still a lot of spaces left.

**Cllr Heaver –** Hyde Street Closure was not an emergency as the works had been proposed for some weeks. The road was not passable for emergency vehicles for a number of days.

Non-Consent Land – has been working with the HDC licensing Officers regarding the Christmas tree sales along the street and the fireworks sales at the same points.

**Cllr Kardos –** Old address is still on Council Papers

Is still concerned about the future engagement with Fulking and Poynings Parish Council re proposed speed limit changes through these villages and Edburton.

The Council advised that the speeds needed to be reasonable and safe.

* .40mph in the Henfield Road to A281 Rushfields roundabout section
* 20mph in the built-up areas.

More details would follow when the official consultation starts.

There being no further business the meeting closed at8.45pm

Signed: Date: